

REMARKS

It is respectfully requested that this application be reconsidered in view of the above amendments and the following remarks and that all of the claims remaining be allowed.

Request for Continued Examination

Applicants hereby request continued examination of the present application under 37 C.F.R. §1.114.

Claim Amendments

Claims 51-62 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants reserve the right to file at least one continuation or divisional application directed to the canceled subject matter.

New claims 63-70 have been added. Support for these new claims can be found, for example, as follows:

Claim Number	Exemplary Support
63	Page 21, line 36 to page 22, line 8; page 23, lines 1-23; and original claims 1 and 14
64	Page 22, lines 3-8; page 23, lines 13-14; and original claim 15
65	Page 22, line 15
66	Page 43, lines 1-4
67-70	Page 41, lines 18-29
71	Page 22, lines 3-8; page 23, lines 13-14; and original claim 15
72	Page 22, line 15
73	Page 43, lines 1-4

No new matter has been added by these amendments. The Examiner is hereby requested to enter these amendments.

Applicants submit that all claim amendments presented herein or previously are made solely in the interest of expediting allowance of the claims and should not be interpreted as acquiescence to any rejections or ground of unpatentability. Applicants reserve the right to file at least one continuing application to pursue any subject matter that is canceled or removed from prosecution due to the amendments.

Interview

Applicants wish to thank Examiner Vandervegt for extending the courtesy of discussing this application with the undersigned and providing helpful suggestions on December 2, 2003. The written description rejection of all the pending claims were discussed, and Applicants pointed to the arguments made in the response filed February 27, 2003. As this Amendment and Reply is submitted in accordance with these discussions and suggestions, Applicants believe that all pending claims are allowable.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112

The Advisory Action states that the rejection of claims 51-62 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph (new matter), which was issued in the final Office Action mailed July 30, 2003, has been overcome. The rejection of claims 51-62 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph (written description), as stated in the Advisory Action, is now moot since these claims have been canceled. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusions

For the reasons set forth above, Applicants submit that the claims of this application are patentable. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the Examiner's rejections are hereby requested. Allowance of the claims remaining in this application is earnestly solicited.

Applicant : Oppmann, et al.
Serial No. : 09/658,699
Filed : September 8, 2000
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Attorney's Docket No.: 16622-005001 / DX01042X

In the event that a telephone conversation could expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (650) 839-5044.

Enclosed is a \$770 check for the RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e) and a \$110 check for the Petition for Extension of Time fee. Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: Dec. 19, 2003


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